

Berkeley County

1. **What does educational achievement mean to our community?**
 - How are numbers stack up defines who we are – we want to see improved test scores.
 - Student staying school through graduation
 - Students staying in the community
 - Economic growth
2. **What is needed in our community so that ALL students can succeed? (Strengths & Challenges)**
 - Neighborhood schools
 - After school program in churches, community organizations,
 - Using retired teachers effectively
 - Provide positive role models for students
 - Teacher training
 - Continue advocating for multiple measures for viewing student growth
 - Remind people that short term solutions are insidious by nature
 - Focus on gentle, relentless pressure for improvement with the support to make it not only possible but probable
 - Resources for early childhood and preschool (4 and 3 year olds)
 - Parent intervention language and thinking
 - Mandatory preschool summer school especially for poverty level kids to sustain and reinforce learning

Challenges:

 - Funding

Strengths

 - Outreach to retired citizens to work in schools – huge resource
3. **What programs, partnerships etc. work well in your community to support all students succeeding?**
 - Work study programs
 - Career days
 - Project inquiry – training science teachers
 - After school programs
 - Career clusters
 - After school to work
 - School to work
 - Mentoring
4. **What can we do in our homes and neighborhoods to strengthen our schools?**
 - Parenting programs in schools
 - Home visits – First Steps
 - Reducing language barriers for non-English speaking students
 - Need transportation for parents to get to schools for meeting
 - Good PR from schools to community